

International Study Scholarship

2012-2013

Eligibility Criteria

All NKU students that meet the following criteria are eligible to apply for the International Study Scholarship.

- **Minimum Overall GPA of 2.5** – Students must be in good academic standing, with minimum overall GPA of 2.5 (a 3.0 for Graduate students, or 2.333 for Chase College of Law students).
- **One NKU Semester Completed** – Students must have completed one semester of study at NKU prior to applying for this scholarship. Applicants must be full-time students or continuing part-time degree-seeking students. There is no specific number of hours for which the student must be enrolled to be considered for an award.
- **FAFSA Up-to-date and On File** – Students should check with the Office of Student Financial Assistance to make sure they have a current Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) updated and on file. If not already completed, students are encouraged to file online at <http://fafsa.ed.gov>, or a hard copy of this form is available in the Office of Student Financial Assistance. The Office of Education Abroad (OEA) recommends students submit their FAFSA form 4 weeks prior to the application review date to allow time for processing. If the student's FAFSA is not complete and on file with the Office of Student Financial Assistance at the time of review, assessment of the scholarship application will be delayed. A hard copy of your FAFSA need not be submitted to OEA.
- **Eligible to Participate in Program** – Students must meet the qualifications to participate in their chosen education abroad program and that program must be approved by the Office of Education Abroad.

Application

Please submit the following materials together in one envelope to the Office of Education Abroad:

- **Scholarship Application Form** – The attached International Study Scholarship application form must be completed and signed.
- **An Official Transcript** – Official transcripts are available from the Office of the Registrar. Unofficial transcripts printed by the student from Norse Express will not be accepted.
- **Faculty Letter of Recommendation** – Students must submit a letter of recommendation from an NKU faculty member, preferably from a professor with whom they have taken a class or from an academic advisor. This letter must be on office letterhead and signed by the faculty member. The letter should address the academic qualifications of the student and the relevance of the study abroad program to the student's academic focus here at NKU.
- **Personal Essay** – Students must write a 2-3 page typed essay describing:
 - 1) The academic and personal benefits you believe that you will derive from the experience
 - 2) Why/how the award will assist you in being able to participate in your education abroad program
 - 3) The relevance of the study abroad program to your academic endeavors
 A 5-paragraph essay format is recommended, with each of the three middle paragraphs covering one of the topics above. As the quality of the essay is evaluated by the Scholarship Review Committee, students should be attentive to grammar and spelling.
- **Program Budget** – Students should include a budget for their education abroad program with the scholarship application. The budget must be site-specific and, at minimum, should include program cost, air travel, land travel, housing, health insurance, and meals. Students participating in KIIS, CCSA, and NKU faculty-led, short-term programs need not submit a budget, as it will already be on file in the Office of Education Abroad.

Application Review Dates

Scholarship applications are reviewed on a rolling basis. It is recommended that students **turn in their applications as early as possible** during the application period for their program as funds may run out in the fiscal year.

	1st day to submit application	LAST DAY to submit application
Winter 2012/13 Programs	August 20, 2012	October 19, 2012
Spring 2013 Programs	October 1, 2012	January 25, 2013
Summer 2013 Programs	December 3, 2012	March 22, 2013
Fall 2013 Programs	March 1, 2013	April 19, 2013

Award Amount*

- **Up to \$1,500 or Half the Program Cost, Whichever is Less** - Scholarships of up to \$1,500 or approximately half the program cost to the student, whichever is less, may be awarded to selected students. Please note that the award amount determined is based on availability scholarship funds for the 2012-2013 academic year and is subject to change.
- **Maximum of \$3,000 during NKU Tenure** - Students may be awarded this scholarship more than once; however, a student may be awarded at most a total of \$3,000 during her/his NKU tenure.
- **Scholarship Will Not Cover All Costs** - In all cases, this scholarship will not cover the entire cost of any study abroad program. A significant portion of the program cost will remain the student's responsibility.
- **Award Disbursement** – The award will be posted directly to the student's NKU account. In all cases, the award WILL NOT cover the initial program payments. In some cases OEA will work with the Office of Financial Assistance to disburse the award in time for the LAST PAYMENT for the trip, however, due to feasibility of disbursement, students may have to pay all program costs up front and later be reimbursed for the amount of their award.

*All award information is subject to change based on scholarship fund availability

Selection Procedure

- **Applications Reviewed by 3-Person Committee** - Scholarship applications will be reviewed by a 3-person committee, appointed by the Office of Education Abroad. This committee shall determine rankings based upon the review of all application materials. The committee will submit their rankings to the Director of Education Abroad.
- **Academic Performance, Essay, & Academic Relevance Evaluated** - Scholarship applications will be evaluated by the committee in three categories: academic performance of the applicant, the quality of the personal essay, and the academic relevance of the study abroad program to the applicant's academic focus. The committee will use the applicant's essay, letter of recommendation, and transcript in order to evaluate these three categories.
- **Financial Need Evaluated** - A major criterion for the scholarship will be financial need, as determined according to the applicant's FAFSA by the Office of Student Financial Assistance.
- **3 – 6 Weeks to Process Application** - The final decision will be relayed to the students by the Office of Education Abroad via mail approximately 3-6 weeks after a completed application is submitted. Please note that time periods when the university is closed (such as winter break) are not included in this processing time.

<p>You MUST notify the Office of Student Financial Assistance of your participation in your chosen study abroad program so that additional financial need can be applied to your financial record.</p>

Purpose of Award

To increase international awareness on campus by making the opportunity of education abroad available to a greater number of students.

Background

Beginning in 2001, President James Votruba established this International Study Scholarship Fund, allowing a recurring annual allotment of \$50,000 to be awarded to NKU students participating in education abroad programs. The scholarship fund was increased to \$75,000 in 2006, to \$125,000 in 2007, and to \$168,000 in 2008.

Revised 05/12

NKU International Study Scholarship 2012-2013 Application

Applicant's Name _____
(Last) (First)

Award Letters Will Be Sent to This Address

Current Mailing Address _____
(Number and Street)

(City) (State) (Zip)

Email address _____

Telephone Number Home: (_____) _____ Cell: (_____) _____

Fr. ____ So. ____ Jr. ____ Sr. ____ Grad. ____ Major/Area of academic interest _____

Study Abroad Program Name & Country _____
Program Cost _____

Course(s) to be taken abroad _____
Credit hours expected to receive _____

Have you received an International Study Scholarship in the past? ____ If yes, Award Amount _____

Do you have a complete and up-to-date Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) filed at the Office of Student Financial Assistance? Yes ____ No, but I am in the process of filing my FAFSA ____

International Study Scholarship applications will not be processed until they include the following (Full instructions on first page of application packet):

- Application Form
- Official Transcript
- Faculty Letter of Recommendation
- Personal Essay
- Complete & Up-to-date FAFSA on file at Student Financial Assistance

I have read and understand the details of this scholarship as outlined in the attached document. I am aware of the cancellation and refund policies of the program for which I have applied. I understand that I am subject to the program's cancellation and refund policies regardless of whether I am awarded the International Study Scholarship.

Release of Information:

I hereby attest to the accuracy of the information I have included in this application and give my full permission for the use of my information in the selection process of awarding this scholarship. I understand my full application will be reviewed by all members of the selection committee, appointed by the Office of Education Abroad. I give full permission to all members of this committee to review my information.

Signature

Date